

CONNECTED

January 2003



ARBOR DAY REMINDS US OF THE IMPORTANCE OF TREES



Your friends with the Marietta Board of Lights and Water encourage you to join your fellow Georgians in planting a tree to celebrate Arbor Day on Friday, Feb. 21.

The idea for an Arbor Day observance originated in Nebraska with a man named J. Sterling Morton. Morton and his wife moved to the territory in 1854 and immediately began planting trees. Morton also eventually became the editor of Nebraska's first newspaper, and frequently wrote about the importance of trees on the frontier. Settlers relied on trees to provide fuel, building materials, and shade from the hot sun. By serving as windbreaks, trees also helped hold precious topsoil in place.

Morton proposed the idea of a tree-planting holiday on Jan. 4, 1872, during a meeting of the Nebraska Board of Agriculture. State officials eventually declared Arbor Day as a legal holiday and selected Morton's birthday, April 22, as the date for its permanent observance.

Soon, other states began adopting the tradition. Most state observances now occur on the last Friday in April. But Georgia and several other states chose dates that they considered more suitable for tree planting in their regions. In this state, trees planted between November and mid-March have the best chance to establish themselves before summer arrives. For that reason, Georgia celebrates Arbor Day on the third Friday in February.

For more information on Arbor Day, please visit the National Arbor Day Foundation web site at www.arborday.org. 🌱



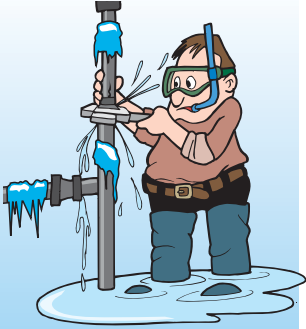
Did You Know.

The Georgia State tree is the live oak.

Other names: Virginia live oak, Spanish oak, Spanish encina

Scientific Name: *Quercus Virginiana*

Protecting Pipes Can Keep You From Getting Soaked This Winter



Frozen pipes can cost you a lot more than a few bucks on your water bill. When pipes freeze and burst, an eighth-inch-long crack can spray out as much as 250 gallons of water each day. The aftermath can include ruined carpet, damaged furniture, and lifestyle disruptions.

To prevent such a disaster in your home, apartment or business:

- ✂ Insulate pipes in crawl spaces, attics and, if possible, near outer walls.
 - ✂ Wrap high-risk pipes with heat tape or thermostatically controlled heat cables.
 - ✂ Disconnect garden hoses.
 - ✂ If possible, shut off water to pipes that lead to outside faucets, and drain the remaining water inside.
 - ✂ Seal cold air leaks in and around pipe locations with insulation or caulk.
 - ✂ Turn on a faucet just enough to keep the water trickling out.
 - ✂ Leave the thermostat set no lower than 55 degrees if you have to leave home for an extended period.
 - ✂ Pay attention to local weather forecasts so freezing weather doesn't catch you off guard.
- If your pipes do freeze, do not attempt to thaw it out with a propane torch. Beyond creating an extreme fire hazard, you can quickly destroy plastic pipes. Instead, turn on the faucets fed by the pipes and call a plumber. But if you can't resist trying to thaw the pipe yourself, or just want to make sure you're present when your water again begins to flow, one leading insurance company recommends:
- ✂ Wrapping the pipe with electric heat tape. Choose a tape certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, then carefully read and follow instructions.
 - ✂ Move a hand-held hair dryer back and forth across the length of your frozen pipes.
 - ✂ Wrapping the pipe with several layers of towels or other fabrics, then pouring hot water over the cloth.
 - ✂ Set up a heat lamp about a foot away from the pipe. But cover the adjacent wall area with aluminum foil to prevent the lamp from scorching other nearby materials. For added safety, plug the lamp into an outlet equipped with a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter. ⚡

Calendar of Events

Through February 23

"Out Of Order" By Ray Cooney
Theatre In The Square
Call 770-422-8369 For Tickets And Information

February 8-February 22

"The Little Mermaid" By Junior Players
(Ages 7-13)
Little General Playhouse
Call 770-565-3995 For Information

February 15

Ga. Street Rod Association Car Show
Jim R. Miller Park
Call 770-577-6701 For Information

Opens February 15

Tying The Knot: 200 Years Of Weddings
Marietta Museum Of History
Call 770-528-0431 For Information

February 28-March 22

"Little Women (The Early Years)"
By Little General Players
Little General Playhouse
Call 770-565-3995 For Information

February 28-March 29, 2003

"Inherit The Wind" By Cobb Players
Little General Playhouse
Call 770-565-3995 For Information